

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7230**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1189

**DATE PREPARED:** Dec 27, 2000

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Commission for Higher Education Changes.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Chuck Mayfield

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-4825

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill amends the Indiana law concerning the Commission for Higher Education. It provides that the general purposes of the Commission are to make recommendations regarding a plan for and coordination of Indiana's state-supported system of postsecondary education and regarding appropriations for postsecondary education. The bill specifies that the Commission is not a policymaking authority. It also provides that a Commission member who attends a meeting that is not held in compliance with Indiana's open meeting law is not eligible for reimbursement of expenses, per diem, lodging, or mileage for the remainder of the member's term. This bill provides that a Commission member who has lost eligibility for reimbursement and attends a second meeting that is not held in compliance with the open meeting law will be immediately removed as a member. The bill requires that the Commission's long range plan for postsecondary education in Indiana conform to the educational missions of the state educational institutions. It specifies that the Commission may review publicly funded programs and expenditures of public funding. The bill removes the Commission's authority to approve or disapprove the expansion or establishment of new campuses and programs. The bill makes conforming amendments.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** Under current law, the Commission sets higher education policy for the state and is required to review budget and capital project requests.

The bill may affect the need for staffing at the Commission for Higher Education, depending on what other responsibilities the Commission performs. The Commission currently employs 13 staff members and had an operating cost of \$1.95 M for FY 2000.

The following table shows past appropriations and expenditures for the construction and rehabilitation projects for institutions of higher education.

Expenditures			Appropriations	
1996-97	1997-98	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-01
\$38,034,874	\$59,667,100	\$25,307,315	\$85,059,962	\$95,059,972

The following table shows the number of projects annually reviewed by the Higher Education Commission.

1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01 (to date)
95	50	92	40

The provision in the bill which removes a member's eligibility for travel reimbursement if they attend a meeting not in compliance with Indiana's open meeting law could result in a minor reduction in expenses.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Commission for Higher Education.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** List of Appropriations made by 1999 General Assembly (Budget Agency); Mike Baumgartner, Higher Education Commission, 317-464-4400.